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OS REGISTRY  
FILE *Security 18*

20 March 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: SA to the DCI for Compartmentation  
 FROM : Deputy Chief, APEX Control Staff  
 SUBJECT : APEX Steering Group Meeting, 18 March 1980

1. The 10th meeting of the APEX Steering Group was called to order at 10:00, 18 March 1980, with the following in attendance:  25X1

ACS	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chairman	25X1
ACS	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deputy Chairman	
ACS	<input type="checkbox"/>		
ACS	<input type="checkbox"/>		
OSD	<input type="checkbox"/>		
NSA	<input type="checkbox"/>		
NSA	<input type="checkbox"/>		25X1
DIA	<input type="checkbox"/>		
DIA	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Air Force	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colonel Herbert Kamm	
Army	<input type="checkbox"/>	Richard H. Smith	
<input type="checkbox"/>			
UNI	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gerald L. Berkin	25X1
COMIREX	<input type="checkbox"/>		
COMIREX	<input type="checkbox"/>		
SIGINT	<input type="checkbox"/>		
SECOM	<input type="checkbox"/>		
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>		
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>		
RMS	<input type="checkbox"/>		
INR/State	<input type="checkbox"/>	William Deary	

2. The meeting opened with the Chairman distributing a set of strawman equivalency tables for APEX product and for the various subcompartments. He commented that about one-third of the questions we have received deal with equivalency, and promised that at the next meeting he will have a paper on how to go about converting to APEX.  5X1

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25X1            3. [redacted] asked whether we will continue to use COMINT codewords. [redacted] responded that we may continue to use COMINT codewords simply because we can't do anything about them. He pointed out, however, that the "U" is patently redundant, and that it signifies TS COMINT. [redacted]

25X1            4. [redacted] asked whether there was anything fixed about the order in which the items appear on the strawman equivalency charts. The question was answered in the negative. [redacted]

25X1            5. A paper showing the changes proposed in the Industrial Manual glossary, which were not made, was passed out. [redacted] advised the Steering Group that the Industrial Manual was sent to the printer this date, and it is expected to be completed by next Monday. He urged the members to provide any comments they may have promptly so that we will be able to make the various deadlines and have the manual printed by 5 May. [redacted]

25X1            6. The Chairman announced that a letter on the nomination process for [redacted] items is being prepared and will be presented to the Steering Group. The letter provides that the proprietor of the sensitive information can stipulate the controls over it, e.g., dissemination list.

25X1            [redacted] asked whether NFIB would review every nomination for [redacted] or only the initial group of nominations. [redacted] replied that the Final Report is explicit on this point. Paragraph I.E.5. says that NFIB will review nominations for [redacted]

25X1            7. [redacted] advised that he has sent a paper to the DCI proposing that the Steering Group members from CIA, DIA, INR, and OSD should see all nominations for [redacted] if these members are to function effectively. In addition, of course, the originators and processors must know the content of the [redacted] items. The document he sent to the DCI calls for NFIB review of [redacted] items. [redacted]

25X1            8. Mr. Anderson observed that he has determined that the 4-C system will be capable of suppressing specific projects or other information. He indicated that he objects to entering items of a one-time nature, but favors a bigot list for long-term continuing items. [redacted] commented that he expects NID annexes may last for weeks or even months, but he would hate to enter lists for things that won't be published as [redacted]. Mr. Deary commented that two recent apparent [redacted] nominations, which never were actually issued, did not go before NFIB. [redacted] explained that these items had been National Security Council directed. [redacted] asked whether each [redacted]

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subset will have a discriminator, for example [ ] -SOMETHING? 25X1

[ ] said yes. Each item will have an identifier, and 25X1  
the NID items will be marked as [ ] , [ ]

[ ] asked how material will be handled which is 25X1  
[ ] solely because of its source, like Blue Border.

25X1 responded that some Blue Border will be [ ] restrictions  
on dissemination would reduce its usefulness, and it is anticipated  
that an effort will be made to hold such items to a minimum. [ ]

25X1 9. [ ] commented to the members that the National Security Council Staff is adamant in its concern that we pass out too much too highly classified materials in too many copies. The NSC Staff is constantly urging us to hold down dissemination. [ ]

10. The Chairman announced that nothing has been done about the production of slides and cassettes for the APEX orientation, pointing out that our choice is to produce those items, or produce the clerical trailer for the APEX film. He also advised that answers have been formulated for approximately 55 new questions on APEX submitted by DIA. If there are any other questions, especially on conversion, members were asked to submit them promptly. The Chairman will pass out a consolidated list of questions and answers next week. [ ]

11. The draft working script for the secretarial trailer film was distributed to the members. [ ] asked that if anyone has explicit problems with the script, to advise the APEX Control Staff as soon as possible. We will be committed on format and will be into production of the film by the end of the week. He indicated that the principal problem with the film is length. We are trying to select material carefully in order to hold the length of the film to 20 or 25 minutes. [ ]

12. The Chairman collected responses to the draft secretarial supplement to the APEX manual. [ ] commented that the supplement will have to be used in conjunction with the manual rather than in isolation. [ ]

13. [ ] called on Colonel Kamm, who presented a written report on the proposed APEX seminar, to be held on 5 and 6 May. [ ] advised that the APEX Control Staff is working with CIA's Security and Logistics offices on arrangements for the seminar. He asked Colonel Kamm to let him know what package is to be sent out to attendees, and advised that he wishes the Working Group to handle

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25X1 that aspect of the conference. He also asked the members for comments on the organization or content of the proposed agenda.

[redacted] asked what the correlation is between item 7 on the first day and item 8 on the second day. [redacted] advised

that the presentation on the first day is intended to further define the APEX system, while the second presentation will be a progress report on implementation and a projection on how APEX is going to be made to work.

[redacted] commented that the impact of the conference on COMINT cannot be estimated at this time. She said the SIGINT Committee may not be able to answer questions on implementation by 5 May.

[redacted] asked that the Committee try to do the best it can. Mr. Deary commented that the conference will be the first time anyone signs an APEX oath.

[redacted] asked whether the audience will have substantive knowledge and duties.

Colonel Kamm and [redacted] both indicated that the ACO's and ASO's will come from varied backgrounds, but many of them will have substantive COMINT experience.

[redacted] asked what access approvals the attendees will have, and Colonel Kamm responded that TK will be the minimum.

25X1 14. The APEX Industrial Indoctrination Working Group was called upon, and [redacted] responded that the first meeting of his group was held last Thursday. He believes that the members require further information on APEX, but that an agenda strawman will be ready for the next Steering Group meeting.

25X1 15. For the SIGINT Committee, [redacted] reported that the first COMINT Panel meeting will be held on Wednesday, and that the group will try for a draft paper by 5 May.

25X1 16. [redacted] urged everyone to turn their attention to identifying manuals which will be involved in the establishment of operational subcompartments. He requested a report from each Steering Group member by the end of March on what has been done and what needs to be done. He specifically requested written responses from the collection system management representatives, but said that users ought to be looking at the manuals they hold and preparing to express their desires for the content of the new manuals. After the May APEX seminar is over, he expects everyone to turn greater attention to the matters of rewriting the manuals and formulating the subcompartments. Until the May conference is over, not much can be done about these matters, except by COMIREX and the SIGINT Committee.

25X1 17. [redacted] advised that his investigation of the system manual problem is much more difficult than he expected. Although he thought it would be a matter of inventorying the manuals

issued by the system operators, he has found that there are at least 10 manuals prepared by various DoD agencies which are extremely revealing of the collection systems. In some cases, there are more than 400 copies of these documents, and they are not under the program managers' control. The manuals, which have been prepared by TAC, TRADOC, FORSCOM, etc., are all very explicit, and they make the problem much more complicated than he had expected.

25X1 [redacted] responded that the Steering Group has never regarded this problem as a simple one and pointed out that the form of the manuals mentioned by [redacted] had been discussed at an earlier meeting of the Steering Group. He suggested that the system managers might write letters to the issuing authorities of these documents, advising them that they will be reviewed and that dissemination may be changed under the APEX system. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] commented that these manuals were part of the problem that led to the APEX goal of separate collection and product compartments. These manuals, which apparently are not for processors but for the information of users, can cause real problems. He expressed the belief that among the members of the Steering Group there are avenues to approach the issuers of all these manuals. [redacted] 25X1

25X1 18. [redacted] also commented that the Industrial Manual change paper disseminated to the Steering Group last week was not properly classified and compartmented. He believed that the Confidential treatment of this paper was inappropriate. He requested that the paragraph discussing Paragraph 16 of the Industrial Manual be deleted, or that the papers be forwarded to him for proper control. [redacted] 25X1

25X1 19. [redacted] announced that there had been only one request for the use of some of the \$1.7 million still remaining for APEX conversion. [redacted] submitted a written proposal which said he could use some of the remaining funds. [redacted] said that he may have a competitive bid by next w [redacted] urged him to hurry. [redacted] 25X1

25X1 20. Finally, the Chairman introduced [redacted] an NSA officer who will be joining the APEX Control Staff shortly. The meeting adjourned at 10:51. [redacted] 25X1

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25X1 SA/DCI/C [redacted] tb (20 Mar 1980)

Distribution:

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Richard L. Welch, ONI

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Herbert Taylor, Army

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